

LETTERS

FROM

Sir WILLIAM BRERETON

Sir THOMAS MIDDLETON,

Sir JOHN MELDRUM,

Of the great Victory (by Gods
providence) given them, in raising the siege
from before *Mountgomery-castl.*

AND,

How they routed, and totally disperfed His
MAJESTIES Forces, under the command of the
Lord *Byron*; where they tooke all their Carriages,
Armes, and Ammunition, and made them flie to
Shrewsbury and Chester.

With a List of the names of all the Commanders and
Officers taken and kild in the said service.

Die Lunæ, 23 Septemb. 1644.

Ordered by the Lords in Parliament assembled, That
these Letters be forthwith printed and published.

J. Brown Cler. Parliamentorum.

LONDON,

Printed for *John Wright* in the Old-baily,

Septemb. 23. 1644.



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To the Right Honourable,
the LORDS, and others of the Com-
mittee of both Kingdome, sitting at *Darby-*
house in Westminster.

Right Honourable,



Hat God who is most glorified by working by
the weakest and unworthiest instruments,
hath this day given a most glorious victory,
and as much manifested his power therein,
as in any day I have been engaged since the
beginning of these warres.

We have relieved Mountgomery-castle, wherein there
was closely besieged, and much distressed the *L. Herbert* of
Cherbury, *Col. Price*, and most of *Sir Tho. Middletons* Offi-
cers, and neere 500 Souldiers.

We were so very hard tasked by the multitude of our
enemies, (whodid much exceed us in number) as that, if
the Commanders and Souldiers had not engaged, and be-
haved themselves very gallantly; or if we had wanted any
part of our forces, it might have hazzarded our Army, for
it was very dubious and uncertaine which way the Lord
would incline the victory: it came to push of Pike, wherein

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We were so very hard tasked by the multitude of our
enemies, (who did much exceed us in number) as that, if
the Commanders and Souldiers had not engaged, and be-
haved themselves very gallantly; or if we had wanted any
part of our forces, it might have hazzarded our Army, for
it was very dubious and uncertaine which way the Lord
would incline the victory: it came to push of Pike, wherein

they were much too hard for us, having many more Pikes. Our horse also at the beginning of the battell were worsted, & retreated; but there was, I doe believe an unanimous resolution both in horse and foot to fight it out to the last man. Indeed there could be no other hope nor expectation of safety or escape, there remaining no way of retreat, all passages being entirely in the enemies power (if masters of the field;) and truly if God had not infatuated, they might easily have interrupted our passage, and made good divers passes against us. But our extremity was Gods opportunity to magnifie his power; for when it was most dubious the Lord so guided and encouraged our men, that with one fresh valiant charge we routed and put to retreat and flight their whole Army, pursued them many miles, even in the Mountaines, and did perform great execution upon them; slew (I doe believe) 500. wounded many more, tooke neere 1500 prisoners, and amongst them Colonel *Broughton*, and Col. *Tisley*, who they report to be General majors; there were also taken Lieutenant-colonels, Major and Captaines, more then twenty; and all their Carriages and neere 20 barrells of Powder, wherein they were furnished the night before the battell; We tooke also (as was conceived) neere 1500. or 2000. Armes, most for foot. Most of their horse escaped towards Shrewsbury and Chester.

The enemies Army was reported, (and I doe believe) was no lesse then 4000. the Foot being the old Irish who came out of Ireland with Col. *Broughton*, *Warren*, *Tylley*, and some of Col. *Ellis*, and some of Col. Sir *Michael Woulfehouse*, and Sir *Michael Ernlys* Regiment, from Shrewsbury, Chester, and Ludlow. Our Army consisted of about 1500 Foot, and 1500 horse. We lost not 40 men slaine, and I doe believe, there was not 60 wounded. Our greatest loss

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was of Sir *Wil. Fairfax*, and Major *Fitz-Simons*, most gallant men. Sir *John Meldrum* did with much judgement order and command these forces, and therefore deserves a large share in the honour of this daies successe. But indeed the whole honour and glory is to be given and ascribed to God the giver of victories, and who is most deservedly stiled the Lord of Hosts.

What remaines further to be done in prosecution of this victory shall not be omitted; and if it please God that Newcastle be delivered, and some Scottisb Forces assigned to assist to the taking in of Chester, I hope through Gods mercy there may be a good account given of all these parts of the Kingdome. To effect which, no man shall serve you with more faithfulness then

Your humble servant.

WILLIAM BRERETON.

Mountgomery,
Septemb. 18. 1644.

We know not how to dispose of these common prisoners, unless it would please you to order some of them that will take the Covenant to be shipped (if God give us Leverpoole) and transported over into Ireland, to serve you there.

VVe have left Sir *Tho. Middleton* in a good condition in Mountgomery-castle, and the Gentlemen of the Country begin to come in unto him; Sir *John Price* is already come unto him, before I came thence. The *L. Herbert* is come away with us towards Oswestry.

For



For the Right Honourable,
the Committee for both King-
doms, at Darby-house in
Westminster.

My Lords, and Gentlemen,



Formerly acquainted you of our coming hither and of our proceedings in these parts; and also of the good successe it pleased God to bestow upon us. Since which time the enemy hastned to come upon us, before we could bring in provisions for our Garrison; by reason whereof I was enforced to retreat with my Horse unto Oswestry, with some small losse, onely of straglers that lay loytering behind, leaving all my Foot in the Castle, and hastned into Cheshire to procure reliefe, and likewise into Lancashire to Sir John Meldrum, from whom I found a great deale of readinesse to relieve us in our distresse, and to preserve what we had gotten from the enemy, being 37 barrells of Powder, and twelve of Brimstone, both which they exceedingly wanted. Sir Iohn Meldrum, with Sir William Brereton, and Sir William Fairfax marched with 3000 Horse and Foot towards Mountgomery, and came thither on the 17 of this instant September, where we lay that night in the field that was most advantageous for us, which the enemy had possesst themselves of before, and diserted at our coming

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ming thither, placing themselves upon the mountaine above the Castle, a place of great advantage for them; we resolved not to goe to them, but to endeavour the victualling of the Castle; whereupon we sent out parties for the bringing in of provisions; which the enemy perceiving, they marched downe in a body both Horse and Foot, being in number about 5000. and came up to our ground, and gave us battell; wherein, after an houres fight, it pleased God we obtained a glorious victory, having taken many Officers, 1400 common Souldiers, slaine 400, and taken their Ammunition, with a great part of their Armes, and some few horse, the rest all flying away; the Lord Byron commanded in chiefe the enemies forces, and Sir Iohn Meldrum the Parliaments forces, who behaved himselfe most bravely and gallantly; and Sir William Fairfax, who had the command of the horse did most valiantly set upon their horse, and engaged himselfe so farre that he was taken prisoner, but presently fetcht off by the valour of our men, but sore wounded; our men issued also out of the Castle, and fell upon the enemies in their trenches, and tooke divers of their Officers, and Souldiers, which they had left to keepe their Workes; Sir William Brereton with the Cheshire foot did most bravely behave themselves that day, and did beat the best Foot in England, as they the very enemies confesse, being all Prince Ruperts foot, and the chosen foot out of all their Garrisons. I shall make it still my humble suite, that you will please to afford me some speedie course for present money, for the payment of my Souldiers, for without that I shall not be able to keepe them together. And for the present I shall take upon me the boldnesse to subscribe my selfe

My Lords, and Gentlemen,
your humble servant,

THOMAS MIDDLETON.

Mountgomery-castle,

Septemb. 19. 1644.

Since the writing of this Letter it hath pleased God to take to his mercy Sir W. Fairfax, who is even now dead



For the Right Honourable,
the LORDS, and others, of the
Committee of safety for both
KINGDOMES.

My Lords,



Have thought fit to give your Lordships a briefe account of some passages of businesse here in *Wales*, forbearing a larger relation till I shall have a further time, and larger subject, which in all probability, by Gods assistance, may offer it selfe within a short time. I was by the earnest invitations of Sir *William Brereton*, and Sir *Thomas Middleton* easily perswaded to concurre with them for the reliefe of *Mountgomery-castle*, besieged by the Kings forces; I resolved to contribute my best endeavours in that expedition, as well in regard of the importance of the service, as that *Liverpoole* was not to be attempted suddenly by such forces as I had, (being in number inferiour to the forces within the Towne,) whereupon I went along with the *Yorkshire*, *Lancashire*, *Cheshire*, and *Staffordshire* forces (amounting to 3000. horse and foote,) and marched to *Mountgomery-castle* in *Wales*, which was by a great deale of industry

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industrie and resolution, taken in by Sir *Thomas Middleton*,
 together with a great deale of powder, match and brimstone,
 which (coming from Bristol) was prepared for the relief
 of Shrewsbury, Chester, and Leverpoole: upon our ap-
 proach towards the Castle, the Enemie did withdraw them-
 selves in some disorder, the next day after being the 18. of
 September, they did take the advantage of the weaknesse of
 our Quarters, the third part of our Horse being employed a-
 broad for victualls and forrage; their Horse and Foot came
 on, with great courage, resolving to breake through our
 Forces, and to make themselves Masters of a Bridge we had
 gained, the night before: which would have cut off the pas-
 sage of our retreat: It pleased God to dispose so of the issue
 of the businesse, that (by the resolution of the Officers, and
 Souldiers, of Horse and Foot) the Enemy did loose the ad-
 vantage they had in the beginning, and were shamefully rou-
 ted, by the pursuit of the victorie, which continued for
 the space of three miles: there are found dead upon the place
 five hundred, besides many Officers of quallity killed and
 wounded, and twelve hundred Prisoners: Sir *William Fair-
 fax*, and Major *Fitsimons* (who caried themselves most brav-
 ly) are deadly wounded, without great hope of recovery,
 with some other Captains and Officers of our Horse: the
 Cheshire Foot with their Officers, carried themselves more
 like Lyons, then men, especially Major *Louthian* who com-
 manded as Major Generall: The Castle is releevd with
 victualls, Sir *Thomas Middletons* Souldiers who were before
 as Prisoners, are made free together with the Lord *Herbert* of
 Cherberie: amongst the Prisoners Major Generall *Tilliseley*,
 Colonell *Broughton*, and divers Lievtenant-Colonells and
 Majors, with many Captains and Lievtenants, so that by
 the blow given here, the best of their Foot are taken away,
 Shrewsburie, Chester, and Leverpoole, unfurnished with
 Ammunition, and North Wales (which formerly hath been

the nurserie for the Kings Armies) in all likelihood, shake of that yoke of servitude which formerly did lie on their necks, and wilbe reduced to the obedience of King and Parliament; by the example of Montgomery Castle, which is one of the goodliest and strongest places that ever I know upon. The personall carriage and indeavours of Sir Walter Breerton and Sir Thomas Middleton hath been exceedingly in the advancement of this service. There is good hope that Liverpool by famine wilbe soone rendered, and Shrewsbury, and Chester will be at the last gaspe, where by Gods assistance there shalbe a short triall made. I will say no further for the present to impart to your Lordships. I shall cherish all occasions wherein I may approve myself

Montgomerie Castle
Septemb. 19. 1644.

Your Lordships most humble
Servant,

John Meldrum

My Lords,

THe intelligence I have had since the closing of your Letter, of a body of Horse, and Colonell Hunkes Regiment of Foot that are marched to Shrewsbury, and that the Lords *Biron* and *Mullinax* are gone backe to Chester have altered my resolution touching Shrewsbury, which the best had no other inducement, but the hope of a siege within the Towne, and the scarcitie of Souldiers that I am

Your Lordships most humble Servant,

John Meldrum.

A List of the Prisoners taken and slaine at
the Battell neere Mountgomery, upon the
eighteenth of September. 1644.

Col. Broghton	Lievt. Perkins	<i>Serjeants.</i>
Th. Tilsley Col.	Lievt. Aldersay	Simeon Day
Lievt. Col. Bladwell	Quart. Mr. Snelling	Francis West
Major Williams	Cornet Persons	Richard Watson
Capt. Boulton	Cornet Hachkisson	Francis Gough
Capt. Edgerton	Cornet Stagge	Jo. Morgan
Capt. Bellamy	Ensigne Wallis	Jo. Sprigman
Capt. Floyd	Ensigne Williams	Will. Hughes
Capt. Dolebin	Ens. Dutten	Jo. Davies
Capt. Congrave	Ens. Lampley	Tho. Ward
Capt. Bowman	Ens. Parr	Ja. Newin
Capt. Right	Ens. Edwards	Edward Badcocke
Capt. Morgan	Ens. Clackstone	Richard Etty
Lievt. Scidney	Ens. Harrison	Morris Jones
Lievt. Rowes	Ens. Contry	Rand. Griffith
Lievt. Griffith	Ens. Hest	Ralph Smith
Lievt. Morgan	Ens. Lagden	Will. Jackson
Lievt. Thurland	Ens. Jones	Ralph Herley
Lievt. Wilson	Ens. Barker	Jam. Jefferies
Lievt. Floyd	Ens. Price	Rich. Morgan
Lievt. Lewis	Ens. Roberts	Griffith Loyd
Lievt. Bowen	Ens. Richardson	Samuel Day
Lievt. Brickam	Ens. Prichard	Will. Williams
Lievt. Hager	Ens. Winn	Jo. Davies
Lievt. Minchle	Ens. Johnson	Peter Lee
Lievt. Floyd	Ens. Roe	Will. Manning
Lievt. Olliver	Ens. Right	Ed. Philips
Lievt. Cavanogh	Ens. Erwin	Jo. Hin

Ralph Aston
 Roger Stanton
 Griffith Davis
 John Smith
 John Paster
 Wil. Pasley
 Thomas Colflow
 Rob. Stanford
 Isaac Guy
 Tho. Latham
 John Browne
 John Knowles
 Robert Barber
 Sam. Rode
 Rob. Teade
 Roger Pyer
 Nath. Dale
 Will. Compton
 Ralph Williams
 Rob. Baccott
 John Hunston
 Rob. Jones
 Cornelius Sedgel
 Edward Jones
 Edw. Sulbourne

Corporalls.

George Groeyer
 Henry Care
 Tho. Hall
 Tho. Cheadle
 John Hughs
 Andrew Clift

John Huffey
 Evan Price
 Henry Barrow
 Roger Houlton
 Law. Ward
 Henry Harway
 Rice Lewis
 Griffith Jones
 Edward Wills
 Evan ap Humphrey
 Andrew Powell
 John Eleney
 Rob. Price
 Robert Petts
 Tho. Taylor
 James Moore
 John Wolfe
 John Deley
 Rich. Barker
 Edw. Hayden
 Tho. Mullenex
 Griffith Thomas
 John Greene
 Antho. Carr
 Gilbert Sorby
 Rich Key
 John Hughs
 John Jude
 Will. Madders
 Tho. Lee
 Joseph Barford
 John Dillen

Rich. Salmon
 Tho. Crooke
 Tho. Albott
 John Williams
 Peter Lloyd
 Christopher P
 Hen. Neneley
 John Chilton
 John Simpson
 Roger Morris
 John Franke
 Humphrey B
 John Thomas
 John Sarley
 Patricke Role
 William Gilb
 Rich. Walten
 Antho. Comer
 Rich. Leadbe

Drummers

Will. Grynes
 Will. Guy
 John Collyer
 John Perrey
 Tho. Heyes
 Robert Tre
 Edward W
 James Law
 Tho. Decker
 Rich. Moore
 Tho. Hyde.